REMARKS

Initially, applicant would like to thank Examiner Holmes for conducting an interview and for his time spent in the interview.

Claims 1-17 were previously pending in the application. New claim 18 is added. Therefore, claims 1-18 are presented for consideration.

Claims 1, 4, 8-11 and 12 are rejected as anticipated by MAHONEY 5,889,886. Claims 2-3, 5-7 and 13-15 are rejected as unpatentable over MAHONEY et al. '886 in view of MAHONEY et al. 5,999,664 in view of Official Notice. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As pointed out at the interview, the method of the present invention and the method of MAHONEY '886 are fundamentally different in that the method of the present invention is non-OCR-based.

Specifically, the optical character recognition (OCR) method of MAHONEY '886 is disclosed on column 7, line 12 through column 8, line 39 of MAHONEY '886. By the method of MAHONEY '886, an existing document is placed on a scanner to generate a digitized representation or page image thereof. The scanned image is then analyzed.

In contrast, the document that is analyzed in the present invention is a vectorial image document that is created

in a text editor of a computer. After the document has been created in the text editor and is still displayed on the screen, the method of the present invention is performed such that a first step of analyzing the data contained in the document according to at least one of a content of the data and a position of the data in the document, as recited in claim 1, is initially performed. Then a step of comparing the data one-by-one to one or more identification criteria of documents is performed, with an identification criterion being defined by at least one of the content and the position of a datum characteristic of a document. Finally, the step of copying the document into a memory of the computer according to identification criterion without using interaction is performed.

Specifically, the analysis performed is either by the content of the data of the text or the position parameters of this data while the document is in the text editor of the computer. Accordingly, any possibility of errors caused by incorrect character recognition is excluded.

An example of the criteria identification and the copying to memory upon recognition of the identification criterion are disclosed on page 12, line 16 through page 13, line 9 of the present application. As pointed out at the interview, the example of the term "invoice" at 15 centimeters from the left edge and 6 centimeters from the upper edge of a document is a criterion that identifies that document as an invoice. Once that

document is identified as an invoice, that document is saved (as a whole) in a file folder or similar area labeled "invoice" (copied to memory).

As set forth above, MAHONEY '886 performs an analysis based on running text and non-running text and classifies the text into groups as seen in Figures 6 and 7 of MAHONEY '886. Running and non-running text is defined in column 6, lines 35-39 of MAHONEY '886, such that the document is split into running and non-running text for later analysis (no complete document). MAHONEY '886 does not disclose or suggest copying the document into a memory of the computer according to the identification criteria without using interaction as recited in claim 1. As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, the anticipation rejection is not viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 4 includes the step of, during sending of a document to be published toward a publication support, analyzing the data contained in the document according to at least one of their content and their position in the document. Accordingly, the analysis of the present invention as recited in claim 4 is performed when the document is being sent toward a publication support, such as a printer.

As pointed out at the interview, MAHONEY '886 does not disclose or suggest this feature. Specifically, the analysis of MAHONEY '886 takes place after the document has been printed. The

hard copy is then scanned in and an analysis is performed based on running text data and non-running text data. MAHONEY '886 does not disclose or suggest, during the sending of a document to be published toward a publication support, analyzing the data contained in the document according to at least one of their content and their position in the document as recited in claim 4.

Independent claim 8 recites means for analyzing the data contained in the document to be published, emitted from a computer toward a publication support. As recited in claim 8, the analysis is also performed when the document is sent from the computer towards a publication support. Accordingly, the comments above regarding claim 4 are equally applicable to claim 8.

Claim 12 provides analyzing data of the document wherein the analyzing step is performed when the document is sent from a computer to a publishing support. The comments above regarding claim 4 are also applicable to claim 12.

MAHONEY et al. '664 is only cited for features associated with the dependent claims. MAHONEY et al. '664 does not disclose or suggest what is recited in any of independent claims 1, 4, 8 or 12. As set forth above, MAHONEY '886 does not disclose or suggest what is recited in any of claims 1, 4, 8 or 12. Accordingly, the proposed combination of references would not render obvious any of dependent claims 2-3, 5-7 or 13-15.

By way of further explanation, an object of the present invention is to simplify data analysis and reduce the possibility

that an error is performed during the analysis. As set forth above, the analysis is performed either by the content of the datum of text or the position parameters of this datum. The analysis is performed to identify different types of documents before printing so that the print control can be automatically set. According to the invention, various types of documents such as invoices or letters for example are stored in memory based on their document type and can be searched at a later date. When a new document is created in a text editor, this new document is compared to the stored documents to see whether the new document falls into the category of, for example, invoice or letter and if so this document is copied into the memory as, for example, an invoice. This process occurs as the document is being sent to the printer so that the print control can be automatically set so that the document properly prints.

As set forth above, MAHONEY '886 is directed to optical character recognition for analyzing a scanned image and for partitioning that scanned image into running and non-running text regions. MAHONEY et al. '664 is a complicated method of performing a document layout. Certain desired features of the layout are selected as shown in Figure 7 of MAHONEY et al., for example. The selected features are used to create a new document. MAHONEY et al. does not create a document and then compare the created document to stored documents by using specified criteria and then storing the created document in memory based on that
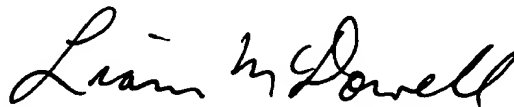
criteria as recited in claim 1 of the present application. In addition, MAHONEY et al. '664 do not perform any analysis when the document to be published is sent from the computer to a publication support as recited in each of claims 4, 8 and 12.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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